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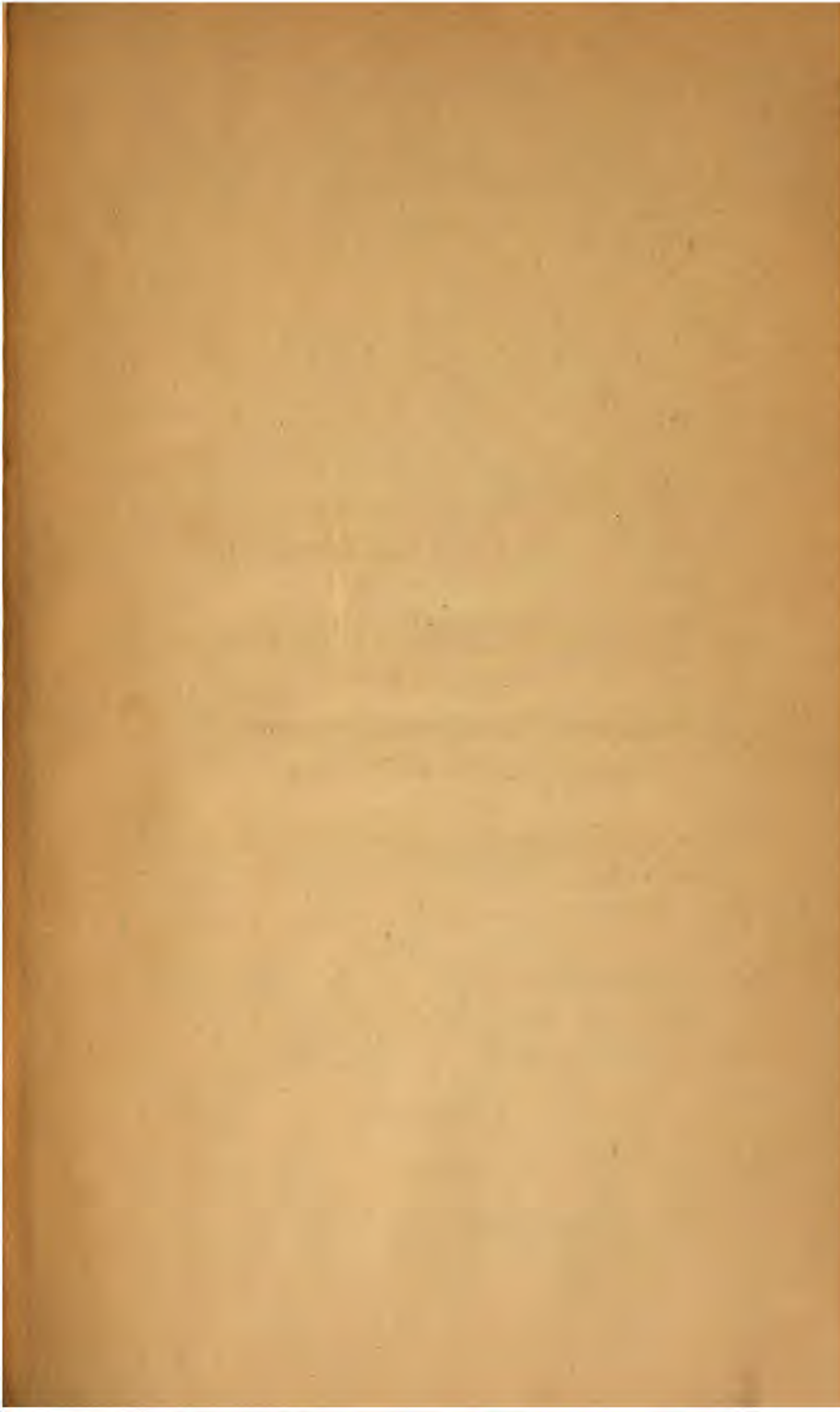
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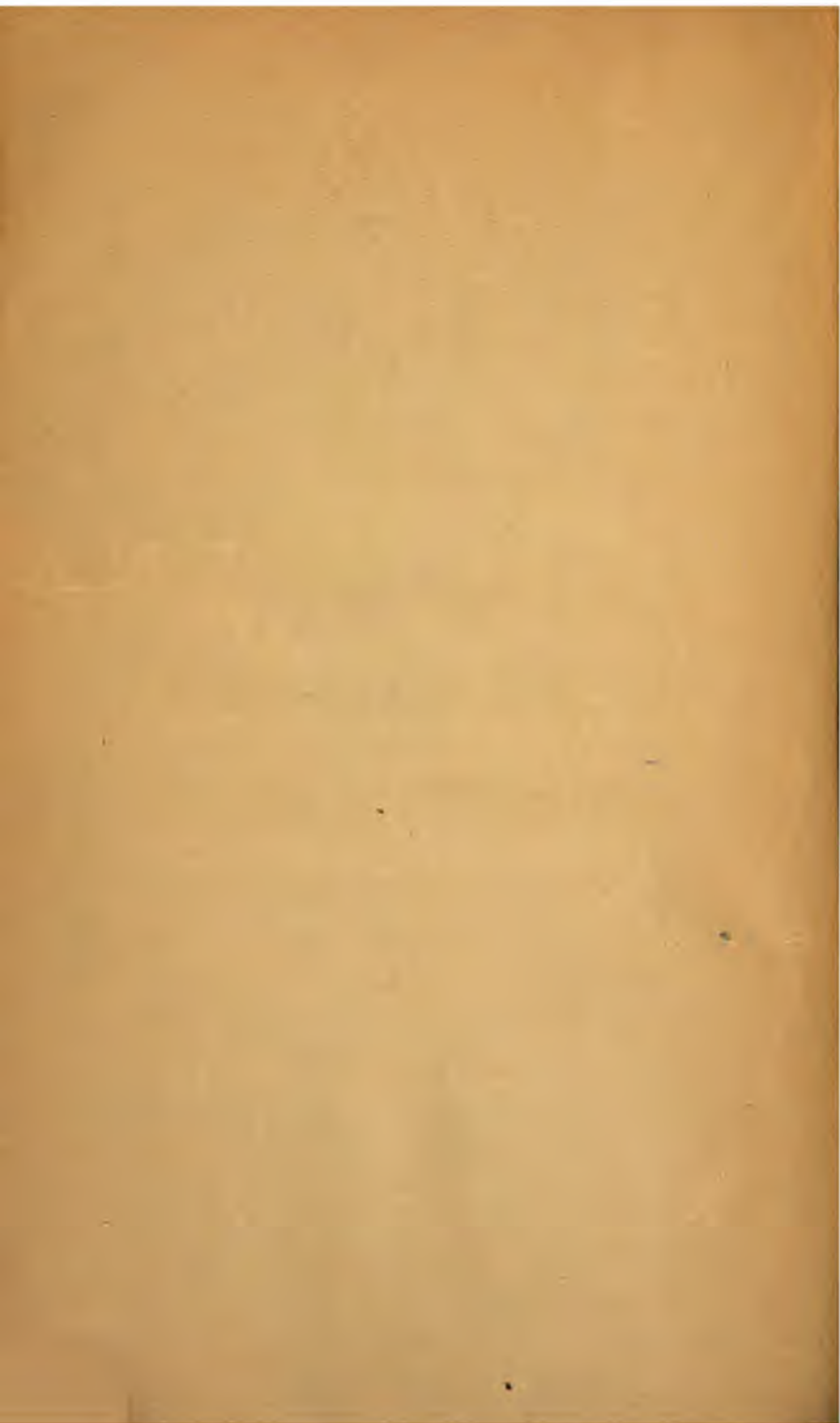
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ETON COLLEGE.

AN

EXPLANATION

OF THE VARIOUS

LOCAL PASSAGES AND ALLUSIONS

IN

THE APPEAL,

&c.

OF

KING'S COLLEGE *versus* ETON COLLEGE.

BY

A LATE SCHOLAR.

TO WHICH ARE ADDED

REMARKS UPON THE EXAMINATION OF
THE PROVOST OF ETON COLLEGE,
BEFORE THE COMMITTEE.

LONDON:

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AN

EXPLANATION,

&c.

THE late publication of all the documents, which passed upon the Appeal between the two Foundations of Henry VI. by enabling every person to judge for himself, has put an end to various misrepresentations and mistakes, and exposed to reprobation the decree, which, for the purpose of screening other collegiate bodies, guilty of similar delinquency, sanctioned the violation of the oath and statutes, by artfully and arbitrarily substituting for the odious term Dispensation, the more plausible title Statute.

An explanation, however, is wanting of all the passages which relate to the conduct of the ruling members of Eton College, towards those intrusted to their care; such being unintelligible, not only to all those who have not been educated at Eton, but even to many who have. An unwillingness to travel beyond the subject of the Appeal, or a tenderness towards the pre-

sent existing body, may possibly have restrained the Appellants from a fuller statement; but a person, who has suffered under the present unstatutable system, feels none of these restraints; and the writer of this, having read the Appeal with attention, and examined closely the different hints and allusions, thinks that a developement of these cannot but be highly interesting to all those connected with Eton, as well as to the public in general.

Many things stated will possibly appear incredible; but every person can satisfy his doubts, by reading the Eton Statutes, which may be found in various libraries in London, Oxford, and Cambridge, and then inquiring of those brought up on the Foundation.

Some years since, the Head-master of Eton threatened a Scholar with a reference to the Statutes, unless he altered his conduct: to this the Scholar shrewdly replied, "I should like to see those Statutes, as they may contain some things in favour of the Boys, as well as Fellows." No answer was returned to this, neither were the Statutes again threatened. Now, extraordinary as it may appear in this case, both were right: the Scholar statutably so, the Master prudentially. For, upon an examination, it would have appeared that every Scholar is not only permitted to read the Statutes; but, moreover, that the Provost and Fellows are ordered

to cause them to be read to the whole body, at three several times in the year, for the purpose of learning their respective duties and rights.

Shall we then attribute a conduct directly at variance with the Statutes, which keeps their perusal totally from the Scholars, to tenderness towards them, or to motives best known to the Fellows themselves? of these the reader will be enabled to judge by the subsequent statement.

In respect to the penal statutes, and the various duties, little difference will be found to be made between the Fellows and Scholars.

The allowances, for the support of the different members of the College, are stated with great care and exactness, and run in the following manner:

FELLOWS.	COMMONS.	SCHOLARS.
From 1s. 6d. to 2s. per week.		10d. per week *.
<i>Lodging.</i>		
Each Fellow one room.		Three Boys in one room.
<i>Stipend.</i>		
Each Fellow 10l. per annum.		None.
<i>Gown.</i>		
Each Fellow, one annually.		Each boy, one ditto.

* The very low price of provisions at that time, renders this allowance ample and sufficient for breakfast, dinner, and supper, particularly as two days in the week were fish-days; and certain fisheries were given in addition to the above allowance.

FELLOWS.**COMMONS.****SCHOLARS.***Clothing, &c.*

None.

100 marks, 66l. 13s. 4d.; to be laid out for clothes and other necessaries, every year.

Education.

Gratis, as stated in the Charter, in the Statutes, and under a most strict oath, to be taken by the two Masters.

Illness.

To be supported, as usual, upon a slight illness. Upon a contagious disease, to be reduced to a stipend of 10/.

To be supported during a short illness at the College expense; if longer than a month, to receive a sum of money; if longer, and no hopes of recovery, to be sent from College.

Such were the statutable allowances; but Edward IV. having taken away several estates by an Act of Resumption, great reductions became necessary, which took place in the following manner:

The thirteen servitors, or pauperes juvenes, were struck off.

The thirteen almsmen were removed, and some almswomen substituted in their place.

The Statute de Hospitalitate, which ordered lodgings and food for mendicants for one day and a night, was given up. The Conducts reduced from ten to two. The Fellows reduced from ten to seven. This last reduction was not according to the statute, and will appear perhaps meritorious, as intending to spare the

Scholars, but the true reason was, that every Fellow must have enjoyed his full share of College allowances; not so the Boys.

The Scholars remained undiminished as to numbers, but suffered great privations. The 100 marks for clothes were taken away entirely, and the commons reduced to a scanty fare for dinner and supper only.

All the Boys were crowded into one room, of so insufficient dimensions, that many sleep in other rooms, for which they are subject to an annual payment.

The exact time of making these reductions is not known, but they had taken place previous to the dispensation. After this gross violation of both oath and statutes, and before the new construction, set up in 1769, for taking still more benefices, the charge for instruction, which was certainly of the first consideration with the Founder, was thrown upon the Scholars; and the salary of the two Masters, the one of whom, by statute, was to receive twenty-four marks, 16*l.* and the other 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*; and all allowances, as the Fellows', reduced to a mere nominal sum. This cannot but be deemed one of the most violent measures adopted, as every precaution had been taken to prevent such an attempt: and even in the statute which permits and marks out the different reductions, in case of necessity, the withdrawing of the

education is not to be found! In short, as the arrangement stands at present, a Scholar, who ought to be fed, clothed, and taught, free of all expense, costs his parents, upon an average, from 80% to 100% per annum: whilst a Fellow, entitled to commons, one room, and 10% per annum, receives in money and commons nearly 1000% per annum, a house free from taxes, and repaired, a stable and coach-house, &c. and, contrary to the statutes, holds benefices of all descriptions, to any amount. That the maintenance of their families authorizes the present system, is an apology futile and untenable, as it is well known that the marriage of the Fellows was not intended by the Founder; but even had it been allowed, can that sanction an encroachment upon the property of others? and the plea is upon a par with that used by the fruitseller at Eton; who, when asked by the Master, how he dared to sell his unripe apricots to the Boys, replied, "A large family, Sir! and at two shillings a-piece!—A large family, Sir!"

The above statement having been shown to certain persons, it was urged in defence of the *present members*, that it was better that the present system should continue, than a new breach of statutes be hazarded by the temptations likely to be held out to the Electors to choose improper Boys. To defend an actual breach of a

law, by an apprehension that its correction may lead to some new violation, is an argument scarcely worth answering; but a simple statement of the case will be sufficient.

The age, acquirements, and condition of the candidates are accurately stated; but with great latitude. A Boy must not be under eight years of age, nor exceed twelve; must know the rudiments of grammar; must not be illegitimate, or the son of a villain or bondsman (this class of men was abolished by act of Parliament in the reign of Charles II.), nor possess above five marks * per annum, in spiritual or temporal property.

The Electors are six, four of them permanent and two appointed annually: before proceeding to the election, they take an oath against partiality, &c.

* Five marks, 13s. 4d. each—3l. 6s. 8d. Taking corn as the medium for determining their present value.

Corn, at the time of the foundation, 4s. 4d. per quarter.

Quarters of corn in 3l. 6s. 8d.—15 quarters 3 bushels.

Corn, according to the Act of Elizabeth for reserved rent in colleges, 6s. 8d. per quarter.

At that time, as one shilling was coined into three, the sum of 3l. 6s. 8d. became 10l.

Quarters of corn in 10l.—6s. 8d. per quarter—30 quarters.

Corn at present, by Corn Bill, 4l. per quarter—30 quarters, 120l.

At 5l. per quarter, at which price it has been for many years—30 quarters, 150l.

In order to elect an improper candidate, all the six must be gained; as any one of them can prevent an unqualified person from being chosen.

But no violation of the statute ensues if they concur in the choice of a Boy within the above-mentioned qualifications, although interested motives may have caused a preference of one out of many candidates. Doubtless, to accept a bribe, or be biassed by improper causes, is an act of moral turpitude in those who have just sworn to act impartially; but the statutes remain unbroken. What grounds then of apprehension on the subject of election?

Again; it was asserted that these privations did not originate with them, but that things were found in this state upon their election; unfortunately, this apology, however at first sight plausible, upon examination makes directly against them; and the old plea of prescription is inverted; for it will appear that *Cœpisti melius quam desinis* is the true description of the conduct of Eton College.

The privations originated in necessity, and were sanctioned by statute; but the same statute orders that these privations shall cease as the times improve and the revenue recovers. The precise state of the income, after the first operation of the Act of Resumption, cannot be ascertained; but, in 1506, the sum audited

amounted to 645*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.*: in this sum a charge was made for sick Boys and the stipends of the two Masters paid.

An. 1600, 2219*l.* 15*s.* 6½*d.*

An. 1673, 4076*l.* 2*s.* 8½*d.*

An. 1773, 5699*l.* 2*s.* 10½*d.*

In these audit accounts, at least of the latter times, the fines for the renewal of estates are not brought to account, but the reserved rent and fines for copyholds only.

Since that time the revenue has been upon the increase; and although the audit accounts cannot be obtained, it has been acknowledged that the Fellows, for some years, have received 900*l.* each, in money: if to this the Provost's share be added only in a triple proportion, and by Statute it ought to be as five to one, we find 9000*l.* among eight persons, in the division of money alone: the return of better times and the restoration of revenue being sufficiently proved, although probably far short of its real amount; as the Fellows have taken to themselves the whole benefit of the increase, whilst the privations of the Scholars, carried far beyond the Statutes, still continue (if even now they have reached their fullest extent): the defence set up acquits those whom it meant to load with the blame, and condemns those it meant to exculpate.

Another defence having been suggested,

resting upon the right of the Provost and Fellows to all the fines, to the exclusion of the Scholars, who are declared to be entitled solely to a participation of the annual corn rent; the opinion of a person was requested upon this point, as well as upon the proportions in which the College property ought to be distributed; and the following answer was returned:

“ A fine is a sum of ready money, arising from the sale of future revenue. For instance, the College having an estate to let, fixes its annual value; from this the corn rent and other yearly payments being deducted, the remainder, called the clear rent, instead of being paid by annual instalments, is sold for one sum to the lessee, who purchases it as he would an annuity, and under the same calculations. The money thus paid at once is called the fine, but is in reality a forestalment of rent. This mode of fining was unknown at the time of the Founder, as no notice is taken of it in the Statutes, which direct the estates either to be cultivated by bailiffs, stewards, &c. and the produce to be sold, or to be let upon lease for a term of years. It was, however, invented by monastic and collegiate bodies, and carried to such an excess, that an Act was passed in the reign of Elizabeth, enforcing an annual reservation of one third of the rent, for the maintenance of the Society.

As, then, the Statutes of Eton College order, that the whole revenue, from whatever sources derived, shall first be applied to stated purposes, and the remainder in incrementum Collegii; and as the Act of Elizabeth was to prevent the squandering in one year the whole revenue of twenty years, and neither interferes with nor gives authority to alter the directions laid down in the Statutes; the claim advanced is null and void. But the absurdity of the claim will appear most glaring, if it be considered, that, as the Provost and Fellows might have let upon fines alone the whole revenue of the College, before the Act of Elizabeth, the Scholars would have been, according to this reasoning, totally deprived of any share of the Founder's bounty.

About two hundred years since, the Provost and Senior Fellows of King's College set up the same claim, and appropriated to themselves the fines; the Junior Fellows, after ineffectual remonstrances, appealed: in consequence of which the claim was set aside, and the whole revenue rendered subservient to the general purposes of the College.

Eton College (provided such claim be true) must have carried on this system uninterruptedly, because the Scholars had no means of knowing their rights, the Statutes having been studiously kept out of their sight, and no interference of the Visitor having taken place for more

then two centuries: whereas, at King's College the Statutes lie open to every member; and thus any attempt at encroachment being detected, references to the Visitor have prevented similar appropriations, and no deviation from the Statutes has taken place, without his knowledge and tacit or express consent.

In respect to the proportions in which the College property ought now to be distributed, the Statutes are a sufficient rule and guide for this purpose. In the first place, the commons ought to be supplied in the proportion therein stated, between the Scholar and Fellow: to this, in favour of the Scholar, the bequest of Lord Godolphin must be added.

The increase of the corn-rent itself affords an ample supply for breakfast, dinner, and supper, of food both good and sufficient in quantity; neither is there any statutable reason for confining them to one kind of meat, such not having been the case in the earliest times. The corn-rent is still further aided by the continual absence of some of the Fellows and of the Scholars, for thirteen weeks, no member being entitled to an allowance for commons during his absence.

In like manner the stipends and allowances ought to follow the statutes. Each Fellow is allowed 10*l.* per annum for the purpose of finding himself in necessaries; 100 marks (66*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*) is allotted to all the Scholars and Choristers for

the same purpose, but under the management of the Fellows; and as a change of times and an increase of property warrant an enlargement, this ought to be made precisely in the statutable proportion. But all calculation is at once set at nought, when we hear of a Fellow receiving 900*l.* and a Scholar not a farthing; and the stipend of the upper Master reduced to a mere nominal sum, being, in direct violation of the statutes, made good by an annual payment exacted from each Scholar.

But there is no need of examining too minutely into the affairs of the College: let but the commons be supplied, both in quantity and quality, as they ought to be; let twenty pounds per annum be laid out in clothing and necessities for each Boy, the school expenses of every kind be defrayed, and a regulation as to expenses of sickness and lodging take place; and no person will care what private arrangements exist between the Provost and Fellows as to their own shares: but it is beyond all doubt that the Scholars have a right to all the above allowances; for, as all allowances depend upon the statutes, if the Scholars are not entitled, neither are the Provost and Fellows—the claims of both are sanctioned by the same authority.

As, however, all the above advanced depends upon certain words, how futile any attempt to give their statutable meaning! By

the late Decree it is evident, that *Arbitrium jus et norma loquendi* do not, as formerly, rest with use and custom, but upon the fiat of the judging power; and as, in that case, Dispensation was declared to be its opposite, Statute, so, by the same hocus pocus of Doctors' Commons, public property may be decreed a private monopoly.

To this must be added Expedience, that most convenient and accommodating rule, particularly when its employer is most interested in the decision: for what but this could render palatable to Christian consciences the *Euripidean* maxim, 'Ἡ γλῶσσ' ὁμώμοχ', ἡ δὲ φρὴν ἀνώμοτος*—a maxim heard with indignation by an Athenian, but an Heathen audience? To this we must attribute the use of the oath-forbidden dispensation—the false construction of the statutes for holding still more benefices—the retaining King's College livings with the fellowship—and the presenting Eton College livings to private friends and relations, and as marriage portions for daughters, instead of saving the Scholars, members of the same society, from superannuation, by presenting them to Fellowships of King's College, &c.

* My tongue has sworn, my mind unsworn remains.

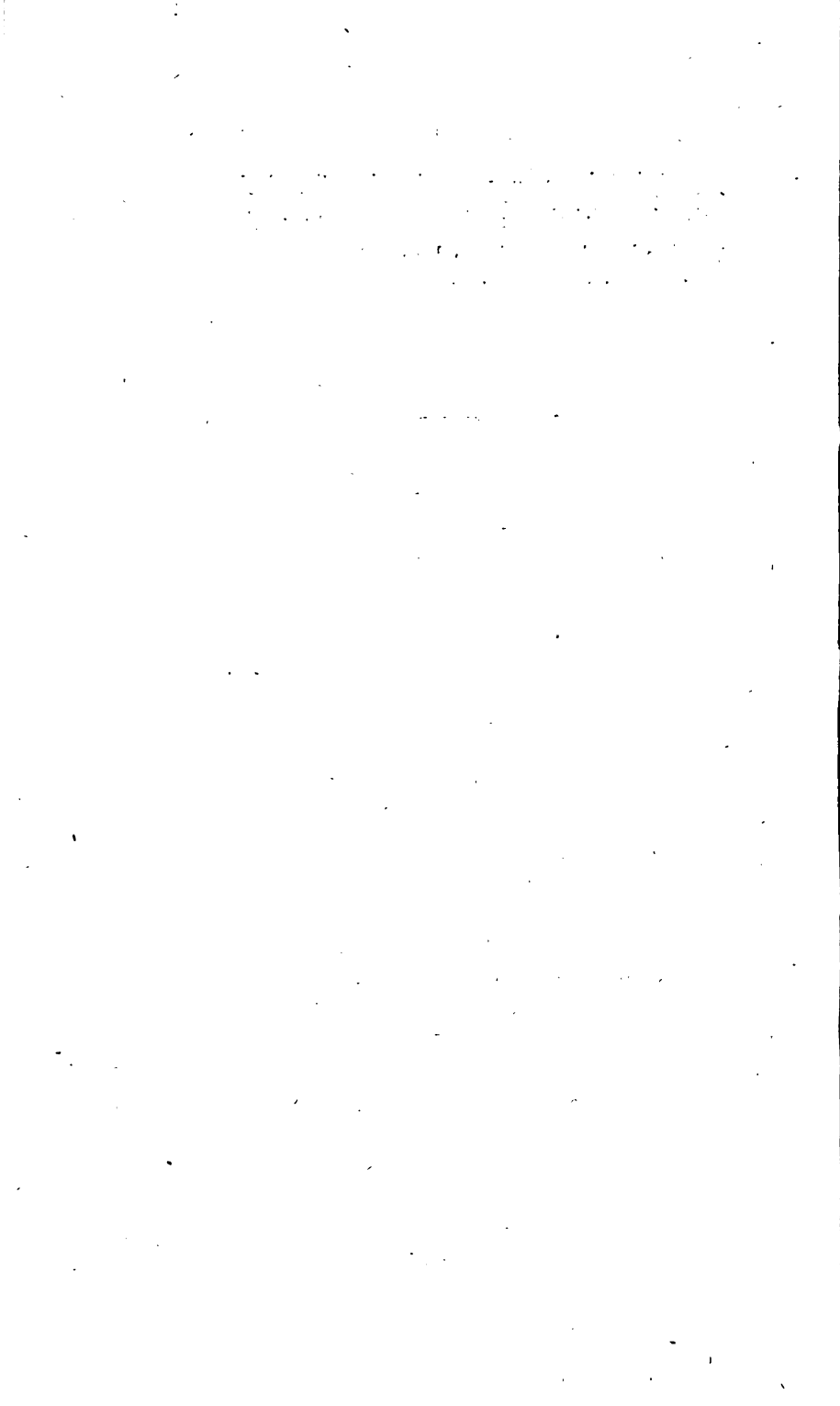
As the above Letter ends with what relates to King's College, let it be added, in continuance, that the Scholars of Eton should be deprived of their statutable allowances, their parents saddled with a heavy expense, and have the frequent mortification of seeing their sons superannuated, while the Fellows are enjoying houses, and commons, and stipends in a centuple ratio of increase, expedience, that universal apology for every action, has determined;—whilst, as set forth in the Eton Answer, a sufficient compensation will be found in the respect which such a display of comforts creates in the minds of the Boys, and the early hopes excited, of being themselves hereafter elected Fellows, and enjoying at others' expense the same indulgences. But to those who are not so sanguine and ambitious (and this includes all who are not related to the Provost or Fellows), it affords but a cold consolation to be able to point at the Fellows and their families, and say, These are all well fed, well clothed, and paid at my cost; and, whilst I am branded with the name of being supported upon charity, although receiving a small share of the emoluments, the Fellows, who

are enjoying the overflowing bounty of the Founder, are looked up to as great men.

The above statement will have rendered all the local allusions intelligible; and when, in addition to this, it becomes known, that, in the enumeration of the different members of the College, the Scholars stand next to the Provost, and that no lease or grant can be legally valid unless in the name of the Provost, Fellows, and Scholars, let the candid reader judge whether they ought to be deprived of their statutable allowances by the Fellows for their own emolument; and whether the giving Eton College livings for the purpose of preventing their superannuation is not an imperative duty, arising from the interest which the Scholars have in every thing which belongs to the College.

Should the perusal of these pages excite the attention of the ruling members of Eton College to examine and compare their statutes with the above assertions, perhaps expedience, which has hitherto invariably favoured the Fellows, may recommend an amelioration of the Scholars' condition, not as an act of grace, favour, or generosity, but of duty and conscience: should, however, a clinging to the futile pleas of custom, and other untenable arguments, withhold this reparation, it is to be hoped that the parents will endeavour to obtain, through statutable

means of redress, a participation for their sons in all those rights and emoluments which the Founder has been pleased to allot to the several members of his foundation.



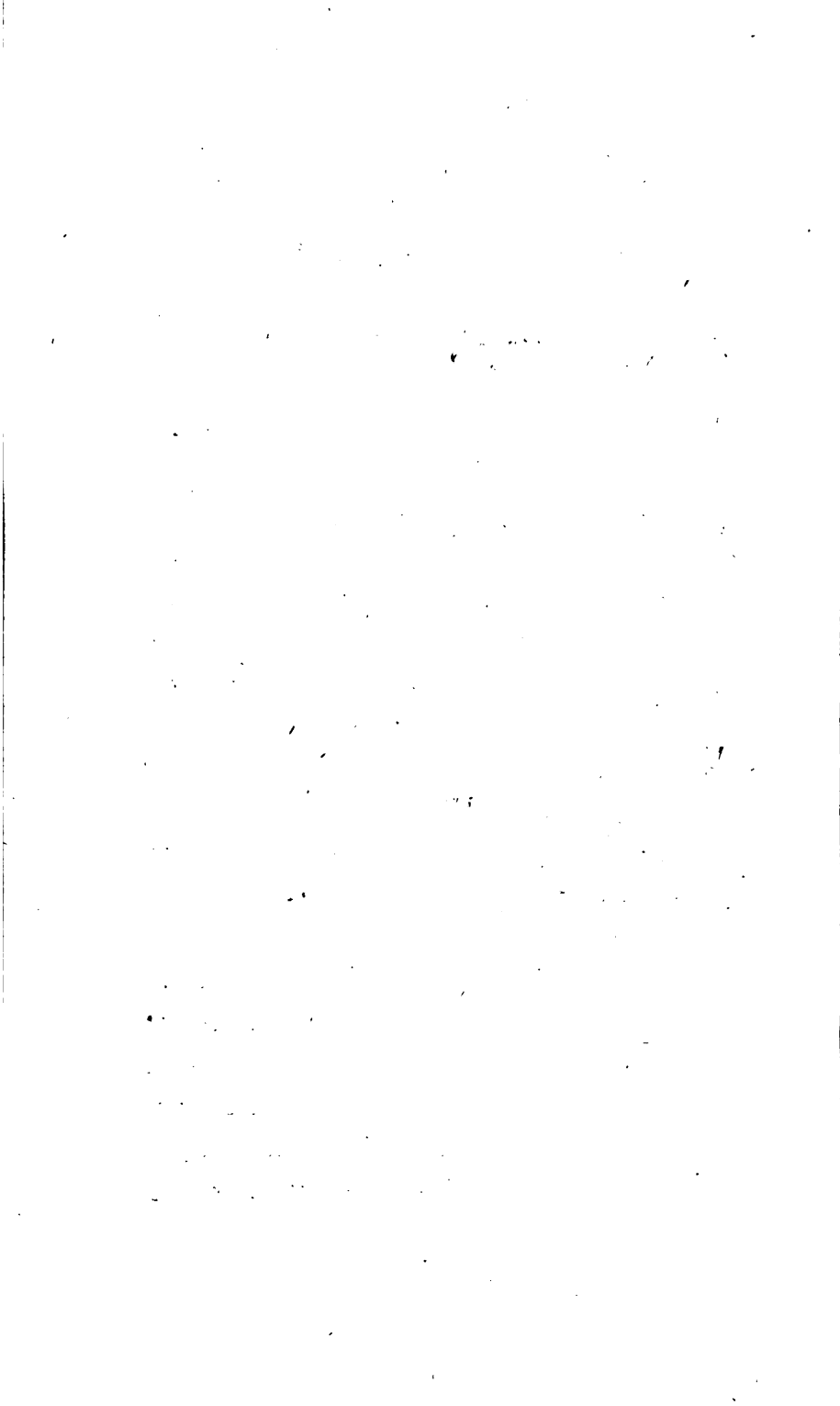
REMARKS

UPON THE

EXAMINATION OF THE PROVOST OF
ETON COLLEGE

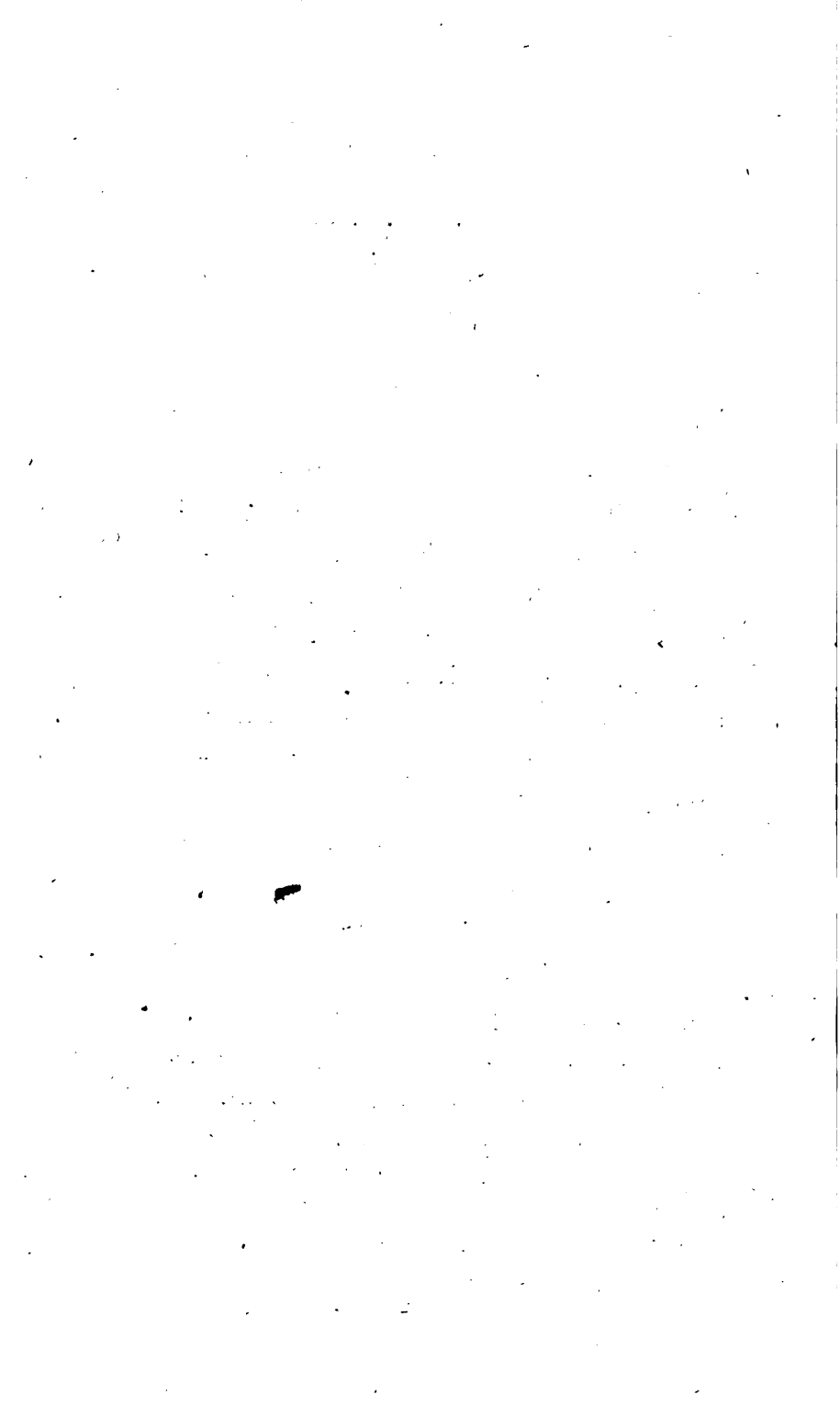
BEFORE

The Committee.



TO THE READER.

THE Examination is so desultory and irregular, and the Answers so frequently at variance with, or containing subjects not comprised in the Questions, that it has been deemed advisable, or rather absolutely necessary, to leave out the greatest part of the Questions, and incorporate the Answers, and arrange them under the different heads of Revenue, Clothing, &c. taking care to preserve the exact words of the Provost. By this arrangement, the reader will be enabled to understand each article separately, and form his judgment accordingly. Should he not agree with the Fellows of Eton and their friends, in considering the defence triumphant and unanswerable, he will however acquit the Provost of intentional incorrectness, and attribute such to his desire of excusing the conduct of his predecessors, and the short time allowed him for preparing his replies.



REMARKS,

&c.

Provost. REVENUE.

THE whole revenue of Eton College is at this time nearly 7000*l.* per annum. This arises chiefly from the reserved rents, from the corn rents, from wood that is sold, from our manors, by fines and heriots, and from a certain portion of the redeemed land-tax, settled by the Commissioners, as equitable between the Provost and Fellows, and the use of the general establishment.

REMARKS.

This statement is unfair and defective. The word Revenue, as intended by Mr. Brougham, comprised the total amount of the annual income of the College: whereas, the Provost's answer confines itself to the rental, omitting the fines for renewals of leases, and a portion of land-tax, amounting to 686*l.* 19*s.* This per-

tion of land-tax, although announced as equitably settled by the Commissioners, is an unstatutable claim. The Commissioners acted under a misrepresentation, their decision is invalid, but the blame rests with those who submitted an improper subject for their determination.

REVENUE.

A. D. 1506 - 652*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*

A. D. 1817 - 12,854*l.* 17*s.* 7½*d.*

In this year the fines and portion of land-tax are added:

Fines, on the average 4,950*l.* 0*s.* 0*d.*

Land-tax - - - - 686*l.* 19*s.* 0*d.*

Provost.

FELLOWSHIPS.

I should suppose the Fellowships are worth, one year with another, as near as I can say, 550*l.* and the average of the Provostship is that of a double Fellowship and 390*l.* besides. It has amounted to more in our good years: we have a double rota; some of our leases are for twenty-one years, some for twenty, and our tithe leases for ten. The former are renewed every seven, the latter every four years; and when the good year of each rota coincides, of course it makes a very productive year. I

imagine a Fellowship in that year must have amounted to 1000*l.*; though in some others it has fallen as low as 350*l.* I have been Provost only eight years; I take loosely the average of those years. It has been as low, as it respects myself, as 1000*l.* and as high as 2500*l.*; but for two or three years considerably below the average. I should mention that it is diminished farther, in consequence of our income not being sufficient for the support of Domus; we give up therefore 500*l.* per annum for that purpose: some of the estates from which we used to take fines, now go for the expense of Domus. The revenues of these are applied entirely to the support of the foundation, without having any thing to do with the private advantages of the Provost or Fellows. Besides the money salary, the Fellows have a right of presenting themselves to one living, but have no other pecuniary advantage whatever. It all goes to Domus: they have no advantage whatever. Each Fellow has 50*l.* which is called a stipend. Most of the Fellows have offices with a moderate salary—and there are a few trifling articles not amounting all together to 10*l.*

They have lodgings besides, which lodging is paid for out of the expense of Domus in regard to taxes. The allowance for coals and candles is included in the sum already men-

tioned. The allowance to the Fellows is quite trifling.

They had a table, which used to be at the expense of Domus; but have relinquished it except on particular occasions, as the King's Birth-day, &c.

REMARKS.

The contradictions in the above statement are given precisely as in the printed Evidence.

The Provost allows the average value of the Fellowship to be 550*l.* from the fines; 50*l.* stipend, an office, and some trifles, amounting to 10*l.* from Domus. As the account of the fines is without any voucher produced, there is no proof of its accuracy. The average has certainly been stated at 900*l.* per annum. In respect to the emoluments arising out of Domus claimed and enjoyed by the Provost and Fellows, the annexed list will show that the amount is far more considerable than the Provost seems to be aware.

It is taken from the audit account delivered by him in to the Committee; and as every article of indulgence to the Scholars, beyond the statutable allowances, is brought forward, it is but fair that the articles appropriated to the Provost and Fellows should be stated against them.

AUDIT ACCOUNT, 1817.

	£.	s.	d.
Fellows' Commons - - - - -	3	10	5
Election Emptions - - - - -	32	5	9
Fellows' Emptions - - - - -	23	1	7
Hams, Tongues, &c. - - - - -	14	7	6
Cook's Bill - - - - -	1	7	0
Fishmonger's Bill - - - - -	10	3	0
Venison Warrants and Game - - - - -	6	15	6
Brawn for Audit Room - - - - -	1	16	8
Founder's Dinner - - - - -	7	8	4
	<hr/>		
Bursars for Azure - - - - -	3	7	3
	<hr/>		
Stipends - - - - -	643	0	0
Chambers Rent to the Conducts and Sing- ing Men for Rooms now occupied by Fellows - - - - -	17	0	0
Gardener's Wages, &c. - - - - -	30	10	6
	<hr/>		
Officers' Salaries - - - - -	188	13	4
Capons lost by Sale of Houses - - - - -	4	0	0
Candles, Provost, and Bursars - - - - -	13	0	0
Provost, eight Chaldron of Coals - - - - -	28	0	0
Ditto, three Loads of Charcoal - - - - -	7	10	0
Seven Chaldron of Coals, Audit Room and Library - - - - -	23	19	6
Audit Room Chairs - - - - -	4	4	3
Gray, for Library - - - - -	2	12	0
Provost, forty Cwt. of Bavins - - - - -	16	0	0
Fellows, seventy Cwt. ditto - - - - -	28	0	0
Provost, twenty-four Loads of Billets - - - - -	15	0	0

	£.	s.	d.
Fellows, seventy Loads of Billets - - -	43	15	0
Provost, twenty Loads of Hay - - - -	30	0	0
——, Straw - - - - -	2	2	0
Gardener, for Seeds, &c. - - - - -	44	3	4

TAXES.

Upon the House in Weston's Yard, held by a

Fellow - - - - -	55	6	10
*Loss of Rent upon ditto - - - - -	40	0	0
Land-tax claimed by Provost and Fellows - -	686	19	0
Total - - - - -	2027	18	9

To this, if the general average of the fines, as stated by the Provost, be added 4950/. the charge upon the whole revenue amounts to £6977 18 9

Provost.

CLOTHING.

In the Statutes there is an express order, that the Scholars should be supplied with all "*quæ ad Vestitum et Lectisternia eorundem aliaque iis necessaria pertinent.*" I observe farther, that as early as the year 1506, no charge whatever appears under either of these heads. If the Boys are to be clothed, they would statutably be clothed in some coarse uniform; perhaps, like the Blue Coat School, which I presume for a certain time was the case. The roll of 1443 still exists, two years after the foundation, which is in a high state of preserva-

tion, but most of the subsequent documents have been either damaged or taken away; but in only three or four instances have I been able to ascertain the charges for Vestitus and Lectisterium. I presume it did not continue for above fifty years. I imagine, as the reputation of the School increased, that parents of greater respectability sent their children to College; and I suppose they were not compelled to appear in the dress of the College, but that parents were permitted to clothe their children themselves. I conceive, that by way of keeping pace with their Schoolfellows, they rejected with disdain the clothes given to them; for in 1443, the amount for Vestitus and Lectisteria amounted to no more than 50*l*.

Q. Do you apprehend that the original clothing was of that mean description, for any other reason, than that it was the usual fashion and costume of the time?

A. I am not competent to say. I have often considered the question, but never was able to resolve it. The sum allotted is 100 marks.

REMARKS.

From the above we collect nothing farther, than that the sum of one hundred marks (66*l*. 13*s*. 4*d*.) is allotted for clothing and bedding; and that in 1443, it amounted to 50*l*. and was discontinued before 1506.

The suppositions of the Provost are unauthorized and groundless. The sum of money charged in 1443, is of considerable amount, being within a few pounds of the statutable sum; and in this year the second foundation or enlargement took place; the College was not full, nor had its estates as yet fallen in. Why this charge should have ceased by 1506, will admit of better reasons than the fastidiousness of parents. During the intermediate time, Edward the Fourth had seized upon many of the College estates; a reduction became necessary, and it was found impossible to supply the Scholars with food, clothes, and instruction; and clothing, as ordered by statute, was withdrawn in such a case, and reduced to the gown, and never, as it ought to have been, restored.

The Provost has not given a fair description of the dress, which, as he has often considered the matter, is surprising.

The dress is divided into two parts, *Liberatura* and *Vestitus*.

Liberatura, which was, at the first, both the costume and only external habit, is now merely a mark of distinction; that it formerly served for what is now the coat, may be seen from the dresses of those times. The Eton costume is ordered to be *Roba talaris cum capicio*—to be of the same or nearly the same colour as the Provost and Fellows, but of inferior price: white,

red, &c. are forbidden. This is now called the gown, and is a mere badge of distinction. Vestitus, on the contrary, means all the internal parts of dress, such as shoes, hose, &c. the providing of which, is left to the discretion of the Fellows. Surplices likewise, and bedding, are included in the allowance.

Little consideration is necessary, to shew the futility of the Provost's reasons for their discontinuance.

As the costume of Eton is the gown, which always has, and still does exist, and must be worn, if coarseness had deterred respectable persons from sending their children, it ought to do so now, when cloth at 6s. 8d. per yard is the allowance.

The plain case is, that the Boys were intended for orders, and therefore dressed in a clerical habit; the dress of the Blue Coat School has been frequently mentioned in terrorem; but as such dress is not authorized by Statute, should any Provost, upon being compelled to restore this privation, attempt to abuse the discretion intrusted, by giving such coloured dress, it is to be hoped that some superior power would interfere, unless he and his Fellows appeared in the same partycoloured vestments.

Probost.**INSTRUCTION.**

The Statutes require, that the Scholars should be taught gratis, the Oppidans as well as Collegers, in fact the whole School; that the Master is to receive his salary, which was 16*l.* by Statute, and afterwards gradually increased to 63*l.* or thereabouts. He does at present pay his assistants the sum of 218*l.* The Statutes do not forbid him to receive, but to demand, payment. The fact is simply this: if Eton is to be considered a public School, the Master of himself cannot teach 500 and odd Boys; and he must pay assistant masters. I should be disingenuous if I did not add, that the charge for the Master is made by the person with whom the Boys board in the bill, as a matter of course; though, from any person objecting to it, never demanded. In every instance where poverty is pleaded, no demand is made. While I was Master, about ten out of the seventy did not pay for their instruction; but this fact is generally concealed from the other Boys.

REMARKS.

From the above description, the real state of the case cannot possibly be understood. The Ostiarius, or Lower Master, is entirely omitted.

The Founder having established the College for the express purpose of education, wished to give every encouragement to parents to send their sons; he therefore ordains most strictly, that instruction should be gratis. With this intent, he allotted to the Upper Master twenty-four marks, or 16*l.* per annum stipend; and a room and all other allowances as to commons, &c. the same as to the Fellows; and to the Lower Master, 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* room and commons as to the Conducts: making together the sum equal in value to two Fellowships.

He then enjoins in the Statutes, that the Provost shall make them swear at their admission, not to ask, demand, or claim, under any pretence, money from the Boys, their parents or friends.

The Provost admits, that, in defiance of this, the sum of 6*l.* 6*s.* is paid by each Boy: and for this he gives two reasons; the one, that to accept, is not forbidden, but to demand. Fortunately he feels the grossness of the sophism so forcibly, that he confesses that a charge is made, authorized by himself as Provost. Mark; the Provost and Fellows ought to take care that nothing should be paid. The next reason is, that the Master, he ought to have said, the two Masters, cannot teach five hundred Boys. This last reason requires farther consideration.

The Statutes specify the number of Boys

to be instructed gratis, viz. seventy Scholars, sixteen Choristers, thirteen pauperes Juvenes, and twenty Commensales Filii magnorum et potentium virorum; which last were to pay for their commons, but to be lodged in College, and taught gratis. Now, in the Statute, which specifies the qualification and duty of the Masters, they are ordered to teach gratis the seventy Scholars and Choristers, et alios quoscunque ut *præmittitur*, accedentes, omitting to mention the thirteen pauperes Juvenes, and the twenty Commensales; it may therefore admit of a doubt, whether the word *alios*, particularly qualified by *ut præmittitur*, included more than the two last descriptions of Boys, as no arrangement for the accommodation of a greater number, is any where made. The two Masters were able to teach the Boys enumerated, amounting to one hundred and nineteen; but when the School became very numerous, it was impossible to do so without assistance. Here, then, was a case for a Visitor; or even the College, taking all above the specified number, as unentitled to the benefit of the Statutes, might have charged them for instruction. But how have they acted? They have omitted the oaths of the Masters, against demanding payment, and compelled all the Scholars and others indiscriminately, to pay 6*l.* 6*s.*: for it is mere trifling to say, that the charge

would be remitted, if resisted; and indeed the Provost allows, such a case never occurred.

The stipends and allowance to the two Masters, equal to those of two Fellows, have been raised only to about 80 or 100*l.* per annum; whilst the amount of two Fellowships, averages 1400*l.* per annum, or upwards. Thus, in direct violation of the Statutes, they compel the seventy Scholars, as much an integral part of the corporate body as themselves, of whom they are guardians, to pay from their own pockets, what ought to be paid for by the general revenue.

This is an abuse which highly calls for reformation, and ought to be remedied, either by raising the stipends and allowances of the Masters to an equality with the Fellows, or, at least, by the College paying the sum fixed by the Provost, upon the seventy Scholars, amounting to 441*l.* per annum.

The Provost states, that whilst he was Master, about ten Boys paid nothing for instruction, but that this was concealed from the others. Does this concealment imply such to have been a disgraceful act? and is a fair enjoyment of the Founder's bounty, for a gratis education is certainly such, in any wise disgraceful? or is it for the purpose of screening from disgrace those who made the sixty other Boys pay contrary to the Statute?

The Masters, however, are exempt from blame; they take their offices without an oath, and with an understanding that each Boy is to pay. The blame rests upon the ruling powers of the College.

PROBOST. LODGING.

Q. Do the Statutes state in what numbers they are to be lodged in each room?—No: there was never any regulation, nor any notice in any respect of that nature in any part of the Statutes; they were originally in one room. I suppose that about a century or more ago, they were distributed for their greater comfort; two additional rooms were given up to them for that purpose. At the time this alteration took place, there were no fires allowed in any part of the College: those who applied to sleep in those rooms, paid 1*l*. per annum for the privilege, it being a matter of accommodation; they having a fire in consequence.

They used formerly to sleep two in a bed; but in consequence of each Boy having a separate bed, the great room, usually called Long Chamber, would scarcely hold more than fifty.

REMARKS.

The whole of this statement is at variance with the Statutes.

Statute xxxvi. de Dispositione Camerarum.

The Provost and Vice-Provost shall regulate the chambers according to the disposition laid down in this Statute: viz. that in the upper chambers, the Fellows and Upper Master shall lodge each in a single room; next in upper chambers, the Conducts, two by two; after these, the Ostiarius and Singing Men in the lower, if the upper be not sufficient; and in other lower rooms, the Scholars, Choristers, and Commensales; of whom, each Boy above fourteen years of age shall have a separate bed; before that age, they may lie two in a bed, but not more. That in each of these chambers there shall be, at least, three Boys of superior age, &c. who may keep the others in order.

This last injunction alone will shew, that no such room as the Long Chamber was intended; as it is an absurdity to order three particular Boys to be so placed, if the whole number, consisting of one hundred and six, were to be lodged in the same room. Moreover, the Statute says, *chambers*; and the Will of Henry the Sixth, which accurately describes the intended College, contains no such a room as Long Chamber.

But the construction upon this Statute is curious: the Fellows who are to be lodged, *singuli singulis cameris*, have each taken possession of rooms sufficient for a whole family, and even a house beyond the College walls, thereby increasing the rates and taxes at the expense of the Domus; and the Provost's lodge has been enlarged: whilst the Boys, who are to be lodged in *chambers*, are confined to one *room*, of insufficient dimensions, or obliged to pay for sleeping in others. *These rooms, moreover, are of such a description, and kept in such a state, that it would be a calumny upon any decent work-house to attempt a comparison.*

The assertion that no fires were allowed in any part of the College is too sweeping: if there were none, what mean the expressions, *Hyemali tempore cum ignis ministratur*, and *Hora ignitegii*? None are ordered; but it is taken as a matter of course, that fires should be provided in certain parts of the College, as the hall, &c.



PROBOST.

COMMONS.

It is expressly said, that 10*d.* per week should be the sum for each Scholar; I consider

it to be the precise sum. The context fixes the sense of the words, and shews that there should be no difference made with respect to the Scholars.

REMARKS.

The sum as stated by the Provost is certainly correct; but he omits the following sentence in the Statute, which makes a material alteration: viz. "But that the above-mentioned Commons may be supplied more fitly and fully (*convenientius et uberius*) in the times of scarcity and plenty, we decree, that the fruits, rents, and products, all and each arising from the manor called le Mote, with the pastures called Mildenhall, as well as from the stews and fishery called Merton's Were, and from all the water we have purchased from Windesore, together with all the pastures lying within the precincts of the College, shall be applied to these Commons every year for ever. Ordering, moreover, that our Scholars and Choristers shall receive their breakfasts on the usual and customary days."

This sentence makes a great difference as to the increase, as it is in addition to the sum mentioned above. The question is, whether these lands, &c. are appropriated according to the Statute. The value of the property lying near the College must be considerable, as con-

sisting not only of pasture, but of houses built upon the ancient grounds.

Doctor Weston's Yard, as it is called, was taken in and built upon in 1600, at the College expense, by Provost Saville; the coach-houses and stables of the Provost and Fellows since; the hop-yard now let as a garden, and two houses; Mrs. Angelo's house: all these buildings are upon the site appropriated by Statute for Commons; but by the Audit accounts, no rent is paid for some of these, and a small reserved rent and fine for others. The share of the Scholars, compared with those who now are entitled to Commons, would amount to a considerable sum, viz. Provost, 10*l.* per annum:—7 Soc. 5*l.* singulis, 35*l.*;—Upper Master, 5*l.*; Lower, 3*l.*; total 53*l.*—70 Scholars, 2*l.* 2*s.* singulis, total 151*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* The rents and profits arising from all these estates ought to be kept separate from the general account, and laid out in Commons and Breakfasts as ordered,

Provost.

QUALITY OF FOOD.

As to the quality of the food, the greatest care is taken by the Bursars, who, upon hearing any complaint, immediately institute an examination. At different times additions have been

made, particularly with regard to vegetables; and I should trust that other additions would be made as far as the increase of our revenues would permit us to do it. At present, we allow 500*l.* out of the fines, for the general purpose of Domus, which has been the case for the last three years.

REMARKS.

The food of the Boys has been committed by Statute to the management of the Fellows; and this trust will be found at the end of 378 years to have been executed by depriving them of one meal entirely, Breakfast; and confining them to one kind of meat, dressed in one manner, roast mutton; and of this an *insufficient quantity*. In the mean time, an addition, if it really can be so called, has been made, that of potatoes for six months in the year. The Breakfast is ordered by the Statutes to be supplied. The insufficiency of the Commons is put beyond a doubt, by the application of the greater part of Lord Godolphin's legacy, to an increase of mutton, viz. 4436 pounds of meat. The restriction to one kind of flesh, is probably unexampled at any other public or private table.

It was not the case in the early times; as two days in the week, at least, were fish days, and beef and other meats were in use.

A. D. 1600, the consumption of oxen was twenty-six in the year.

In respect to the improvement which has twice been quoted, as a great mark of liberality, in what does it consist? In giving a vegetable, which is to be found at the table of the poorest person who can afford a bit of meat, and in every parish workhouse. But the merit will totally cease, if the matter be more closely examined. The Fellows have appropriated to themselves a garden, a gardener, seeds, &c. all at the general expense; from whence they are supplied with fruits, vegetables, &c. &c. during the whole year; and all this without the sanction of the Statutes. Shall, then, a few months supply of potatoes be trumpeted forth as an act of extraordinary generosity on their part, whilst they assume to themselves such indulgences? and are they not highly culpable in not providing vegetables during the whole year? Vegetables are not mentioned in the Statutes, because they were unknown in England at that time, but no table now is without them; and it surely would be no stretch of discretionary power to suit the Commons to the times.

The hope of future additions is not very cheering, and indeed, under existing circumstances, not to be desired. What hopes can we entertain, when we look back for 378 years, and examine the system? or who can desire an

increase, which, according to the division of the College property, must arise from an enormous rise in the corn rents? Wheat has been as high as 1*l.* per bushel, and no improvement thought of: will any be made even at 2*l.*? or can such an event be desired?

In fact, additions and improvements are improper terms, conveying an idea, that the fault lies in the Statutes. On the contrary, let these be acted upon according to the letter and spirit, and no deficiency will be found. How many meals a Boy requires, and what food ought to be supplied, common sense and custom will point out, and these the Statutes warrant.

The average cost of the Commons for the last seven years is stated at nearly 1800*l.* The statutable allowance is 151*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*; let this sum be multiplied by 10; the share of the Scholars from the rents of the estates, appropriated by Statute to Commons, be added, which, in respect to the Provost and Fellows, as before shown, amounts to 151*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*—to 50*l.* in every 200; and the rise in Commons will be found not to have kept pace with the increase of the College income; and if Lord Godolphin's legacy be included in the sum, still less so.

Probast.**EXTRA INDULGENCES.**

I would observe, there are several articles of expense now, which they had not formerly, as coals, and many trifling articles, such as knives and plates. If the rules and restrictions had been adhered to according to the letter of our documents, the situation of the Boys on the foundation would, in some respects, have appeared to be degraded; it also should be taken into consideration, that there is some addition of expense for servants, though certainly it is a very small amount; whereas, originally, they may be proved to have performed several menial offices themselves.

REMARK.

Whether knives were allowed in the early times or not, there is no mention made; but how did the Provost and Fellows feed without them? did they tear their meat? Forks certainly were not, as they were unknown before the reign of James the First. But were not all these left to the discretion of the ruling powers? It may be observed, once for all, that the Founder has omitted to mention several things which he certainly intended should be allowed; trusting that the Fellows, in compliance with

common usage, would provide them: for instance, fire;—no order is made for this, but it is alluded to as a matter of course, *Hyemali tempore cum ignis ministratur*. To the same discretion, the variety of food, and all fair compliances with the changes of the times in every respect, are intrusted.

The Provost is not borne out by the Statutes in his assertion, that a compliance with them would have degraded the Scholars; and an erroneous opinion has been entertained in general on this point; persons judging from the present treatment of them, that the Founder intended they should be looked upon in an inferior rank. This was not the case. The seventy Scholars, and twenty Commensales, *Filii magnorum et potentium virorum*, are by Statute to sleep in the same rooms, dine at the same tables, and attend divine service equally in surplices. The difference made was, that the Founder paid for the Scholars' Commons, the Commensales for their own; but lodging and instruction were gratuitous equally to them all. Is there any intention of degrading in this?

There is only one menial office, if it can be called so, imposed on the Scholars, namely, that the Upper Master is to appoint weekly, one of them to put down the dishes to each Scholars' mess, and *unus de clericis* is to do the

same to the Provost and others: the whole College, by Statute, dining together in hall. In both cases the servants brought the Commons from the kitchen.

The menial offices were performed by thirteen Servitors, long since abolished, but which offices are now in some measure, contrary to the Statutes, imposed upon the Scholars, as Servitors, and waiting at the Fellows' table in hall. The servants are ordered to attend upon the Scholars in hall, as well as upon the Provost and Fellows, and their number, as ordered by Statute, is diminished instead of being increased.

In fact, the Scholars of Eton stand in respect to the Oppidans, upon nearly the same grounds as the Scholars in the University do to the Pensioners; the difference is in favour of Eton, as a certain number, by Statute, of the Oppidans, ought to be lodged and taught gratis.

Provost.

FINES, AND THEIR HISTORY.

With respect to the fines non constat. I am enabled to lay nothing with accuracy before the Committee. I believe at the time of the foundation no such custom existed. I am pretty sure it was in the 16th century, and I

should think about the middle of it. I presume, before that time, a certain portion of the expense of Domus went for the support of the Fellows, when the practice began to be universal in Colleges to take fines. I imagine that our body being as near as possible in constitution, like a Dean and Chapter, only without the title, as far as I have been enabled to learn by intercourse with the most intelligent members of Chapters, it was introduced about that time.

REMARKS.

The origin and history of Fines are fully detailed in Page 12.

They certainly existed before the corp rent, which was enforced for the purpose of checking their mischief. The appropriation of them by the Provost and Fellows of Eton, probably began with that unprincipled set, who by an act of wilful perjury obtained the dispensation.

The comparison with a Dean and Chapter does not hold good, as the Scholars necessarily form a constituent part of the corporate body, and are entitled by Statute to the largest proportion of revenue.

The search of the Provost might have been short and successful, had he consulted the Statutes upon this point.

Stat. 28.—Quos proventus omnes nos ipsi

nostro Reg. Collegio, et ad communem utilitatem ejusdem solum applicari volumus.

Stat. 35.—Oneribus dicti nostri Collegii juxta ordinationes et statuta ejusdem convenienter supportatis quod residuum fuerit, &c. ad utilitatem et commodum ejusdem conservetur.

Can any right to a separate claim to the fines be supported after this declaration, which orders all the charges to be paid, and the rest in communem utilitatem? The word communem itself, is so difficult of moulding to the appropriation of this money, that even a *Scottism* will not make it palatable. But this with diffidence; as the same head which could, by compounding a word, sanction the *dispensation*, in opposition to the Statutes, may succeed in this, by decomposing; and the *Tale of a Tub* will furnish logical arguments. Such as what cannot be found totidem verbis, may be totidem syllabis; if not in syllables, totidem literis. Now, the word communem, by a curious coincidence, contains eight letters, just answering to the Provost and seven Fellows. Egregious trifling this, it must be confessed, but surely as good as the Provost's non constat, to which some sneerer might add, æquitati or justitiæ; and certainly tantamount to his return of non invent. after so much search for their origin.

But if it can only be proved, that the onera, or allowances of the Scholars, are really paid, no person will trouble himself about quod residuum fuerit.

INCREASE OF EXPENSE, AS STATED BY THE PROVOST.

The result of the accounts which I have examined, respecting the revenues of the College, is, that it appears, that the increase of revenue since 1506, has been in a tenfold proportion, and the expense of the Scholars appears to be in a proportion of thirteen to one.

REMARKS.

This statement does not appear correct.

Revenue in 1506	- - -	£. s. d.
		652 14 2
Revenue 1817	- - -	12,854 17 7
Viz. Audit Account	- -	10,404 17 7
Deduct 2500 lent from fines, remain	- }	7,904 17 7
Average amount of fines as stated by the Provost	- }	4,930 0 0
		12,834 17 7

1506.				1617.			
	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Scholars' Com- mons - - }	122	6	8	Commons - -	1,688	0	0
Liberatura - -	25	0	0	Liberatura - -	83	11	3
	147	6	8	Coals - - -	17	1	3
1506, the Scho- lars paid no- thing for in- struction. }				Cleaning Knives	5	5	0
1617, they paid }				Cleaning Long Chamber }	4	10	0
				Charcoal for the Hall - - }	8	0	0
					1,806	7	6
Provost, Com- mons 2s. 8d. per week - }	6	14	8	Provost & Fel- lows from Domus and Fines - }	6,956	13	4
Soc. sing. 1s. 4d. ditto - - }	24	5	4				
Portio Præp. -	30	0	0				
Soc. sing. 5l. 10s. - - }	38	10	0				
Liberat. Præp. -	1	6	8				
Soc. ditto 1l. 1s. sing. - - }	7	7	0				
Officarii - -	9	16	8				
	* 118	0	4				

The account of 1506 may be cited as a matter of curiosity, but is of no authority. From the Statutes alone the allowances must be taken.

* The accuracy of the disbursements in 1506 is very doubtful, as the whole number of Scholars, Choristers, and Servitors, amounted only to seventy-two. The Provost, likewise, in his statement, omits the Upper and Lower Masters.

Provost and seven Fellows by Statute for Commons and Stipends in toto	}	194	13	8
Scholars, by Statute, for Commons and Clothing	}	209	8	4
Provost and Fellows, on an average	- - -	6,956	13	4
Scholars, - - - ditto	- - -	1,806	16	3

The allowance for clothing being taken away,
and education, amounting to 441*l.* per annum,
being charged contrary to the Statute.

Provost. DISPENSATION.

Sir William Scott, Sir William Grant, and the Bishop of Lincoln, have determined, on a recent appeal, the Fellows may hold any one piece of preferment, not exceeding the value of forty marks in the King's Books, under a grant of Queen Elizabeth, which was pronounced to be a Dispensation. The Statutes say, they shall not beyond a year. The question seems to have turned upon the words, non impetrabo and non utar; whether the Fellows (not the Provost) swear they will not obtain any Dispensation, or use one if obtained. The question was, whether the oath regarded the dispensation, which had been received and

acted upon for 200 years, or whether it recognised no dispensation whatever.

REMARKS.

It is well known, that a weak reason is worse than no reason; and the head which laboured to send forth a decree from Doctors' Commons, as brief and obscure as possible, wisely enjoined silence. What will he say, should he read the Provost's explanation, which only requires the oath to be known, to be refuted?

The oath guards against both acts; the applying for a dispensation, or using, or consenting to it if granted, or offered gratuitously.

The Provost, however, by his explanation admits, that all the Fellows, who obtained and used the dispensation, as well as all those who subsequently sued for, and used dispensations, were perjured. How the case stands with the present Fellows, must be left to the judgment of the reader; only let him, in forming this, dismiss from his mind the sanction of the two make-weight assessors.

(Does Dr. Goodall mean, that the Provost is excepted, and permitted to sue for a dispensation? The Statute of admission enjoins to him the same oath, but some crafty Provost has drawn a line through it; can this annul a Statute?)

The true reason of the decision had no reference to Eton or its Statutes, but to the effects likely to be produced amongst ecclesiastical and collegiate bodies through the kingdom, who had been guilty of a similar offence against their Statutes.

Should one of the Assessors happen to read this, and curiosity or conscience will often tempt to snatch a glance at what is affected to be despised; let him consider how he will determine this case, if an appeal be brought, viz. "The same Queen, the third year of her reign, in the same form of letter, and professing the same authority, ordered, that no Heads of Houses or Colleges, or Fellows, or Bishops, or Deans, or Canons, or Prebendaries, should bring their wives within the walls of such Colleges, or precincts of cathedral and collegiate churches, under pain of expulsion for such offence."

As these letters patent stand unrepealed, they must, according to the late decision, be at this time valid.

How then will the same person, who declared the Royal authority valid upon a point, wherein a prior, and therefore superior power declared it should not be so, viz. Henry the Sixth, the Founder of Eton College, decide upon this question? Possibly, like the Abbé Sieyès, with his pigeon-holes, filled with various constitutions, his drawers may be filled with salvos for

every case, pro and con, and he has nothing to do but to set up a *ranting* LL. D. smirk and smile at the gullibility of the audience, and then issue an unintelligible decree to be swallowed by the *gobemouches*.

CONCLUSION.

As these remarks are intentionally confined to what regards the Scholars, all points irrelevant to this subject are omitted; but of the greatest part, if not of all of those remaining, it may safely be asserted, that they are equally incorrect.

The following conclusions may be drawn from the above counterstatements :

That the real income of Eton College amounts to 12,000*l.* per annum and upwards.

That the division of it into Fines and Domus, is unstatutable.

That the appropriation of the Fines and Land-tax by the Provost and Fellows, is in direct opposition to the Statutes, which order the whole to be applied *ad communem utilitatem*.

That the Scholars, as soon as admitted, become members of the College, having the same interest, subject to the same Statutes, as the Provost and Fellows, and entitled to the allowances of food, clothing, lodging, and instruction, gratis.

That the Scholars do not receive food, either in quantity or quality, as intended by the Founder; that they are totally deprived of the allowance for clothing, and pay 6*l.* 6*s.* for instruction, and are lodged in rooms, not as ordered by the Statutes.

That the reasons advanced by the Provost for the privations, are mere conjectures, groundless, and contrary to the Statutes.

That the Fellows are entitled by Statute to 10*l.* per annum stipend, and 2*s.* per week for Commons, a gown, and one room.

That the Fellows have increased their stipend to 50*l.* per annum, and in lieu of Commons, they receive from the Fines, upon an average 550*l.* per annum, an increase of 110 fold, besides offices and other emoluments; and the single room has been converted into a house, capable of containing a family*.

That the Scholars' Commons have been increased upon an average, not twelve times, amounting to 1740*l.* per annum.

That their only extra indulgence has been coals, amounting to two chaldrons and a half per annum.

That a strict observance of the Statutes

* The increase of the Provostship, if no more than 1500*l.* per annum; is not excessive in comparison with the Fellows. The blame seems to lie on the Provosts, for having suffered them to appropriate to themselves so enormous a share.

would not tend to degrade the Scholars, there being no act of degradation nor menial office contained therein; neither was such the intention of the Founder, but that they should be on a parity with the Fellows and Commensales, now changed into Oppidans: Servants, thirteen Servitors, and four Singing Men, being appointed for the performance of all menial offices.

That the Provost and seven Fellows, whose allowances in toto, by Statute, amount to about 200*l.* per annum, receive nearly 7000*l.*; and the seventy Scholars, whose allowances for Commons and Clothing, amount to 209*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* besides instruction gratis, and maintenance in sickness, receive upon an average less than 2000*l.*

That these privations did not originate with the present members of the College, with the exception of 2*l.* 2*s.* added to the charge for instruction; neither have they made any attempts to remove them.

And, lastly, that the Fellows, as advised by Mr. Brougham, will act wisely, in losing no time in restoring to the Scholars their statutable allowances, which their predecessors, contrary to their oaths, have taken and appropriated to themselves.

THE END.





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